



650 Capitol Mall, 5th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814
916.445.5511 FAX 916.445.7297
<http://calwater.ca.gov>

Agenda Item: 2A
Meeting Date: June 15, 2006

CALIFORNIA BAY-DELTA AUTHORITY

December 8, 2005
650 Capitol Mall, Bay-Delta Room
Sacramento, California

MEETING SUMMARY

1. CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING REMARKS - INTRODUCTION / ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Chairman Gary Hunt called the meeting to order at 9:16 a.m. A quorum was not present at the time of the roll call, however, was established later as members arrived.

Public – Paula Daniels, representing the Southern California Region; Alfred Montna, representing the Sacramento Valley Region; Bill Jones, representing the San Joaquin Valley Region; Patrick Johnston, representing the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta Region; and Marc Holmes and Daniel Wheeler, Members-At-Large.

Bay-Delta Public Advisory Committee (BDPAC) Representative – Gary Hunt

State –Michael Chrisman, Secretary for Resources; Lester Snow, Director of the Department of Water Resources; Ryan Broddrick, Director of the Department of Fish and Game; A.G. Kawamura, Secretary for Food and Agriculture; and Rufus Howell, designee for Sandra Shewry, Director of the Department of Health Services.

Federal – Kirk Rodgers, Regional Director, Mid-Pacific Region, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation; Mike Aceituno for Rodney McInnis, Regional Administrator, Southwest Region, National Marine Fisheries Services; Judy Soutiere for Colonel Ronald Light, Sacramento District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; and Karen Schwinn for Wayne Nasti, Region IX Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Ex-Officio – Senator Michael Machado for Senator Sheila Kuehl, Chair of the Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee; and Assembly Member Lois Wolk, Chair of the Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee.

2. ADOPTION OF OCTOBER 13, 2005 MEETING SUMMARY

After a quorum was established, the meeting summary was unanimously adopted as submitted.

3. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Joe Grindstaff asked Chief Counsel Chris Stevens to update the Board on the status of the State programmatic California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) litigation. Stevens indicated that the State parties filed for review with the California Supreme Court on November 16. He said it typically takes up to 60 days to hear back from the Court as to whether they will grant a review.

4. LEAD SCIENTIST REPORT

Steve Ford, Acting Deputy Director for Science, provided the Lead Scientist Report for Johnnie Moore, saying they had received 35 applications for the Lead Scientist and expect to conduct interviews in December and January.

He said a number of review and technical panels were active, including the Interagency Ecological Program's Pelagic Organism Decline; Operation Criteria and Plan Biological Opinion; Environmental Water Account; and Science Panel's preliminary work to assist in the Delta Vision process.

5. DESIGNATED FEDERAL OFFICER'S REPORT

Allan Oto provided a detailed report of the previous day's BDPAC meeting discussion of the 10-Year Action Plan. He reported that discussions focused around the issues of governance, program oversight, a refocused CALFED, Natural Communities Conservation Plans (NCCPs), Delta Vision and funding. There was disagreement on the recommendation as written, and some members were uncomfortable with the lack of detail and clarity they received in the framework version of the 10-Year Action Plan. There was also concern over the division of actions into categories of Delta and integrated regional water management (IRWM) actions and what that meant. Additionally, they felt Tribal and Environmental Justice issues did not have enough details. Members amended the motion, which was adopted to read: Recommend adoption of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program 10-Year Action Plan as a conceptual framework and recommend that the Secretary for Resources refine the document based on input received from BDPAC and the Authority and submit the conceptual framework to the Governor with the recommendation that the Secretary be authorized to work with BDPAC and the Authority in the development of a full Plan.

6. YEAR 5 CALFED PROGRAM PROGRESS AND BALANCE

Authority Director Joe Grindstaff presented the Program Progress and Balance Report, saying it was the intent to be clear that progress on CALFED Programmatic Record of Decision actions was behind schedule and that a new, more realistic schedule was provided in the proposed 10-Year Action Plan. The report was unanimously approved.

7. REVITALIZING CALFED – ADOPTION OF 10-YEAR ACTION PLAN

After presentation of the Plan, there was a lengthy and detailed discussion among Board members in topic areas that coincided with those brought up at the previous day's BDPAC meeting: governance; funding (including the concept of beneficiary pays); how the Policy Group would actually work; how the statewide advisory board would function; why Tribal and Environmental Justice issues were not included in any detail; what would be the vehicle for the proposed independent oversight; how the concept of Habitat Conservation Plans / NCCPs would actually be implemented; and the division of actions between Delta and integrated regional water management (IRWM).

The Board decided to delay adoption of the proposed 10-Year Action Plan Framework and work with staff on detailing and strengthening the document to address their areas of concern. Areas identified included governance, refocused CALFED Program and Program priorities and near-term funding. A schedule for this work was developed to address the deadline for inclusion in the Governor's budget.

8. ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROGRAM (ERP) GRANTS

The Authority voted on three separate actions:

- Voted to certify a Final Environmental Impact Report on the Chico Landing Subreach Project, adopt CEQA findings, and recommend award of a \$3.9 million grant to The Nature Conservancy for this work (the California Department of Food and Agriculture voted "no" over concerns with agricultural impact analysis);
- Voted unanimously to amend an ERP grant agreement between the Authority and the Sutter Mutual Water Company for construction of the Tisdale Positive Barrier Fish Screen and Pumping Plants Project that would allocate an additional \$1 million to the project; and
- Voted unanimously to recommend to the Department of Fish and Game that it proceed with awarding a \$9.7 million grant to Reclamation District 108 for the construction of a combined pumping plant and fish screen facility.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

Representatives of the Environmental Coalition for Water and People for Children's Health and Environmental Issues presented comments focusing on the lack of commitment to Environmental Justice in the proposed 10-Year Action Plan, concern over lack of time to review the document prior to the meeting, and concern over the ability of the public to participate in the continuing process over the holidays.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Hunt adjourned the meeting at 1:34 p.m. The next meeting was set for December 20, 2005.